



GRAIN & LIVESTOCK REPORT

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MARKET ANALYSIS - March 13, 2003

Activity this week was dominated by the USDA supply and demand numbers released on Tuesday. The USDA was a little more aggressive than usual in reducing the export numbers for corn. The export number was decreased by 75 million bushels leading to a subsequent 75 million increase in ending stocks (up to 1.004 billion). Typically any carryover number greater than a billion has a psychological (bearish) impact on the market. Accordingly, corn futures fell a few cents. However, very little changed with the global production and carryover numbers. The average farm price was reduced by 10 cents and the range is now from \$2.20 - \$2.40. Use local basis numbers provided below to calculate your expected farm price. Ultimately weather and demand items will determine whether the trend continues to be lower in the corn futures market. Traders were concerned that a weak export report on Thursday could send the market into a tailspin. Fortunately, corn numbers came within the range of expectations. We are not in a stable situation right now even though prices this week (and basis) was roughly where we stood last week. There were no major surprises in the USDA report for beans but price moved mainly due to spillover activity from the nearby corn pit. Some traders believed that there would be a large drop in the U.S. carryover and not as large an increase in the Argentine production estimate. The carryover did drop – but only 5 million metric tons. Argentine production was also increased – but only a fraction. The bottom line is the report was negative, but because of recent price declines, traders were reluctant to sell. Rains are keeping harvest activity slow in Brazil and all eyes are on South America during this harvest period. The great news of the week was the bumper export numbers in the bean market. The USDA reported another 638,700 tons sold last week, twice what most analysts were expecting! Wheat trade was under enormous pressure all week. Continued poor export performance last week and heavy fund selling were the main culprits. The USDA numbers didn't help either. The USDA further cut export numbers (now the lowest since the early 1970's) and futures fell on all three wheat exchanges. All said and done the carryover estimate went up to 465 million bushels. Only if the dollar continues to slide and we see some global wheat production problems will there be a major turnaround in the wheat export market. The next monthly USDA report will be on Thursday, April 10th. Before that report eyes will be on the quarterly grain stocks report and the planting intentions due March 31st

BASIS TABLE

LOCATION	CORN BASIS		SOYBEAN BASIS		WHEAT BASIS	
	CASH (Mar03)	NEW(Dec03)	CASH(Mar3)	NEW(Nov03)	CASH(Mar03)	NEW(Jul03)
Western MD	+\$.60	n/a	+\$.04	n/a	-\$.20	n/a
Central MD	+\$.44	+\$.04	+\$.01	-\$.30	+\$.07	-\$.25
Southern MD	+\$.32	-\$.01	-\$.05	-\$.27	-\$.32	-\$.32
Upper E. Sh	+\$.40	+\$.04	Even	-\$.27	-\$.32	-\$.27
Lower E. Sh	+\$.51	+\$.11	+\$.12	-\$.17	-\$.31	-\$.25

WEEKLY CROP WEATHER SUMMARY

MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

This report will resume again in April

CASH GRAINS - REGIONAL - (\$/bu) DEALERS AVERAGE CASH QUOTES

Grade and Commodity	#2 Y Shelled Corn		#2 Yellow Soybeans		#2 Red Winter Wheat		#3 Barley		
	Date	03/05	3/12	03/05	3/12	03/05	3/12	03/05	3/12
Western Md		2.99	2.99	5.79	5.75	3.05	2.90	2.23	2.23
Central MD		2.85	2.83	5.70	5.72	3.28	3.17	2.60	2.60
Southern MD		2.72	2.71	5.68	5.66	2.93	2.78	1.40	---
Upper E. Sh		2.80	2.79	5.73	5.71	2.93	2.78	----	----
Lower E. Sh		2.90	2.90	5.84	5.83	2.96	2.79	----	2.00

Soybean Meal

Lower Eastern Shore

Dealer's Average Cash Quotes (\$/ton)

Date	02/26	3/12	Date	02/26	3/12
48% Soybean Meal	213.00	212.00	44% Soybean Meal	201.00	200.00

FORWARD CONTRACT PRICE-REGIONAL (\$/bu) For Harvest delivery Dealer's Avg Quote

Grade and Commodity	#2 Y Shelled Corn		#2 Yellow Soybeans		#2 Red Winter Wheat		#3 Barley		
	Date	03/05	3/12	03/05	3/12	03/05	3/12	03/05	3/12
Western Md		----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Central MD		2.47	2.44	4.88	4.86	2.88	2.75	---	2.60
Southern MD		2.41	2.39	4.95	4.89	2.81	2.68	1.40	1.40
Upper E Shore		2.46	2.44	4.95	4.89	2.86	2.73	1.50	1.50
Lower E Shore		2.53	2.51	5.05	4.99	2.88	2.75	1.52	1.48

GRAIN FUTURES - Chicago Board of Trade (cents/bu) -Mar 12, 2003

Corn		Soybeans		Wheat		Soybean Meal ¹	
Mar	237.50	Mar	566.75	Mar	306.50	Mar	173.30
May	235.50	May	565.50	May	299.25	May	171.40
Jul	236.50	Jul	563.50	Jul	297.75	Jul	169.50
Sept	237.25	Aug	552.50	Sept	302.00	Aug	165.30
Dec	238.75	Sept	532.00	Dec	312.25	Sept	160.10
Mar04	244.00	Nov	513.50	Mr04	317.00	Oct	154.20

¹ \$/ton

HAY AND STRAW (\$/cwt)							
New Holland, PA - \$/ton - Mar 10, 2003 - 207 Loads							
Alfalfa 145.00-212.00	Mixed 80.00-265.00	Timothy 125.00-300.00	Orchardgrass 127.00-210.00	Straw 95.00-147.00	Firewood 45.00-95.00 (crd)		
Westminster, MD - \$/bale - Mar 11, 2003 - 294 Lots							
Alfalfa 1.909-4.50	Timothy 1.25-4.70	Timothy (lg rd) 40.00-57.50	Grass Mix .90-4.30	Straw .75-2.00	Grd Corn Feed (bg) 4.00-6.00		
Alfalfa Mix 2.00-5.40	Timothy Mix 1.30-4.30	Oats (bg) 5.00-9.00	Grass (lg rd) 33.50-50.00	Ear corn (bg) 3.00-4.50	Corn Silage (bg) 2.50-3.00		
SOUTHERN MD - \$/bale -							
Next Sale Mar 15, 2003							
POULTRY (Grade A) - Week Ending Mar 15, 2003 Negotiated Price, cents/lbs							
	<u>Current</u>	<u>Week Ago</u>	<u>Month Ago</u>	<u>Year Ago</u>			
NY Wtd Avg. (Fryers)	55.26	55.73	55.48	47.45			
12-City Composite	61.12	60.83	60.49	55.39			
LAMBS - Westminster, MD - \$/cwt - Mar 11, 2003							
Ch Woolled	90-110 lbs	106.00-110.00	Spring	30-40 lbs	117.00-127.00		
				Sheep 26	30.00-50.00		
TERMINAL MARKETS HOGS - Mar 13, 2003			DIRECT MARKET HOGS - Westminster, MD- Mar 11, 2003				
Base Price Range (\$/cwt) a.m.	<u>Carcass Basis</u>	<u>Sows (1-3)</u>	220-260 lbs	30.50-34.25	300-370 lbs	31.00-33.50	
	Base 185 lb Hog	300-449 lbs	265-295 lbs	30.00-35.25	400-450 lbs	24.00-26.00	
Eastern Cornbelt	42.50-49.25	19.00-28.62					
Iowa, Minn	40.50-50.89	18.84-27.24	Millsboro, DE Market Hogs - \$/cwt - Next Sale			Mar 18, 2003	
FEEDER PIGS - (\$/cwt) -							
Gumboro, DE			New Holland, PA - Mar 12, 2003				
Head:	Trend:	Next Sale - Mar 17, 2003	Head: 277	Trend:	All sold to slaughter		
CATTLE-LIVE FUTURES - Chicago Mercantile Exchange- (\$cwt) - Mar 12, 2003-			HOGS-LEAN FUTURES - Chicago Mercantile Exchange - (\$cwt) - Mar 12, 2003				
Apr	73.15	Oct	68.10	Apr	52.65	Jul	61.55
Jun	68.95	Dec	69.52	May	59.17	Aug	59.92
Aug	66.20	Fb04	71.10	Jun	62.50	Oct	52.67
FEEDER CATTLE - (\$/cwt)							
Winchester, VA - Mar 10, 2003			Westminster, MD - Mar 13, 2003				
Steers	300-400 lbs	92.00-93.25	Steers	200- 400 lbs	80.00- 97.00		
	400-500 lbs	83.00-91.50		400- 600 lbs	79.00- 86.00		
	500-600 lbs	83.00-87.50		600- 800 lbs	65.00- 72.00		
	600-700 lbs	73.00-77.25		800-1000 lbs	63.00- 66.00		
Heifers	300-400 lbs	79.00-85.50	Heifers	Hols	1000-1150 lbs	44.00- 45.00	
	400-500 lbs	78.00-83.25		200- 400 lbs	70.00- 78.00		
	500-600 lbs	68.25-75.50		400- 700 lbs	65.00- 75.00		
	600-700 lbs	64.00-68.00		700- 800 lbs	63.00- 70.00		
			Hols Bulls #1	94- 120 lbs	135.00-155.00		
				#2	84- 94 lbs	100.00-130.00	
			Hols Heifers #1	94- 135 lbs	97.00-135.00		
				#2	80- 94 lbs	50.00- 95.00	
			Beef X Bulls & Heifers	80- 110 lbs	270.00-290.00		
				#2	80- 110 lbs	140.00-250.00	
				60- 105 lbs	80.00-130.00		
Lancaster, New Holland & Vintage - Week Ending - Mar 15, 2003							
Bulls Holstein	90-125 lbs	110.00-163.00	Plainer	90-125 lbs	100.00-142.00		
Heifers, Hols.	90-125 lbs	200.00-330.00	Plainer	90-125 lbs	140.00-220.00		
SLAUGHTER CATTLE (\$/cwt)							
Westminster, MD - Mar 11, 2003							
Fed Steers			Fed Heifers				
H-Ch 2-4	1300-1475 lbs	73.50-74.75	H-Ch	1100-1475 lbs	71.00-73.75		
Ch 1-3	1100-1300 lbs	71.00-73.00		950-1075 lbs	64.00-66.00		
L-Ch		68.00-71.00	L-Ch	1100-1475 lbs	62.00-70.00		
Cows			Hols Heavy				
Breakers		39.00-45.50	Veal Calves		45.00-50.00		
Boners		38.00-43.75	Good	200- 300 lbs	75.00-80.00		
Lean		34.00-38.00		80- 110 lbs	38.00-45.00		
Thin & Light		34.00-DOWN					
Lancaster, New Holland & vintage - Week Ending - Mar 15, 2003							
Steers, Choice 2-3	1095-1475 lbs	74.00-78.00	Opened higher -\$1 higher but closed the week \$1 lower				
Heifers, Choice 2-3	1020-1400 lbs	71.00-76.00	Opened the week steady but closed w/a weaker				
Cows, Breakers 75-80 pct lean		41.00-47.25	\$3 - \$5 lower				
Bulls, YG 1	1125-2065 lbs	47.75-58.00	Steady to weak				
Vealer, Standard & Utility	60- 110 lbs	10.00-32.00	None				

For more information about this report, call 410-841-5740 or write:

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